



158 Broad St.  
Middletown, CT 06457

Voice: 860.347.5099  
Fax: 860.343.1652

105 Huntington Street  
New London, CT 06320

Voice: 860-347-5099  
Fax: 860-439-0401

119 Lebanon Avenue  
Colchester, CT

Voice: 860-347-5099  
Fax: 860-537-1984

[www.futures-ct.org](http://www.futures-ct.org)

---

Futures School  
641 Farmington Ave.  
1st Floor  
Hartford, CT 06105

Voice: 860-347-5099  
Fax: 860-218-2853

---

Written

Monday, March 11 2013

## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

My name is Jo-Ann Flynn and I am the Regional Manager with Futures, Inc. I am **testifying for the record on S.B. 761 "AN ACT MAKING THE JANITORIAL WORK PILOT PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY OR A DISADVANTAGE PERMANENT."**

"Futures, Inc. represents individuals with disabilities in this qualified partnership initiative. Futures is responsible for recruiting, prescreening, and qualifying individuals with disabilities for this program.

Futures, currently works with 4 of the major cleaning contractors. As an agency we support S.B. 761, because it provides a living wage for individuals with disabilities where by they are treated with dignity and respect. I remember being part of the process in 2006 when making these opportunities available were passed originally as Public Act 06-126 and then again when it was extended in 2010. Making the Qualified Partnership permanent will increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and protect the jobs of those currently employed. With each new hire, the state and federal government saves money on entitlements. In addition, these employees become productive members of society working alongside other community members. This experience contributes to improved quality of life by participating in an employment community that allows for social interaction. We would hope that this concept of set aside contracts would extend into other career opportunities such as but not limited to cafeteria's and office contracts.

Futures, Inc. empowers individuals with disabilities to live life to its fullest and know the satisfaction of personal achievement. Futures, Inc. is a participant in the State Preferred Purchasing Program through the Connecticut Community Providers Association. Last year this program created 1 new job for an individual in the community as well as maintained previous jobs for others that have been on the program since 2006. Through the pilot program we have placed 8 people with disabilities in standard wage janitorial positions.